

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSC-05

ACDA-07 OMB-01 /081 W

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R 050853Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7817

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 2431

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGSC FPR UN XF UR

SUBJECT: JORDANIAN MEDIA GIVES EXTENSIVE AND FAVORABLE
COVERAGE TO SOVIET REPLY TO WALDHEIM MIDEAST NOTE

REF MOSCOW 6730(NOTAL)

1. JORDANIAN TV, RADIO AND PRESS MAY 4 GAVE WIDE
PUBLICITY TO GOJ OFFICAL SPIKESMAN'S "WECOME" TO SOVIET
STAND ON MIDEAST AS EXPRESSED IN SOVIET REACTION TO
SYG WALDHEIMS MARCH 30 MEMO ON MIDDLE EAST. (STATEMENT
PRESUMABLY IS THAT PUBISHED IN PRAVDA APRIL 29---REFTEL)
MEDIA ALSO DEOVTED MUCH TIME AND SPACE TO REPORTING
JORDANIAN REPLY TO WALDHEIM NOTE, DELIVERED MAY 2 BY
GOJ UN PERMREP SHARAF. COINCIDENTAL REPORTING OF TWO
STATEMENTS AND EDITORIAL COMMENT GIVES IMPRESSION OF
PARALLESILSM IN MIDEAST POLICY.

2. STATEMENT OF GOJ OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN EXPRESSED
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GOJ" APPRECATION" FOR SOVIET STAND AND PRINCIPLES IT

REPRESENTED AS WELL AS FOR "SOVIET SUPPORT FOR THE CAUSE OF JUSTICE AND PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST". PRESS EDITORIALS PRAISING SOVIET STATEMENT WERE BROADCAST ON JORDAN RADIO PRECEDING BY COMMENTARY. "THE JORDANIANS PRESS UNANIMOUSLY AGREED THIS MORNING WITH THE JORDANIANS OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN STATEMENT...." AR RAYY ARTICLE CARRIED FIBS JN040735Y MAY 1976, CONTRASTED WHAT IT CALLED WASHINGTONS PERSISTENT ADHERENCE TO STEP BY STEP FORUMLA WITH SOVIET STRESS ON TERRITORIAL WITHDRAWAL AND "PALESTINIAN PEOPLES RIGHT TO SET UP THEIR OWN STATE. ASH SHA AB COMMENTED UNDER HEADLINE"DETERMINING THE ENEMY AND THE FRIEND" "THE PRINCIPLED (SOVIET) STAND... CONCERNING THE REVIVAL OF THE THE PEACE EFFORTS AND THE ADVANCE TOWARD A RADICAL AND JUST SOLUTATIO.. IS TO A LARGE EXTENT IN HARMONY WITH JORDANIANS VIEWS IN PARTICUARL ND ARAB VIEW IN GENERAL.. THE SOVIET STATEMENT FURTHER DREW ATENTION TO TE DANGERS OF ACTS OF AGRESSION AND THE POLICY OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION PRACTICED BY THE ZIONIST OCCUPATION AUTHORITIES".

3. COMMENT: IMPENDING VISIT OF SOVIET AIR FORCE TEAM TO AMMAN AND KING HUSSEIN TO MOSCOW (MAY AND JUNE) AND EMBROGLIO OVER HAWK MISSILE SYSTEM HAVE COMBINED TO CREATE PUBLIC IMPRESSION OF SOME REALIGNMENT OF JORDANIANS POLICY TOWARD SOVIET CAMP AND AWAY FROM TRADIONAL ALLIES. THIS IMPRESSION ENHANCED BY MEDIA TREATEMENT WHICH CONTRASTS WITH SHORT SHRIFT CUSTOMARILY GIVEN BY LOCAL PRESS (#) HANDLING OF SOVIET RELATED ISSUE GOJ ON THE OTHER HAND IS SEEMINGLY NOT DISCOURAGING TREATEMENT. PICKERING

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